

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting
February 7, 2007
Fish and Game Headquarters
Boise, ID**

Present in the Director's Office: Director Groen, Deputy Director Mansfield, Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General; Sharon Kiefer, Legislative Liaison; Mike Keckler, Chief, Bureau of Communications; Jim Unsworth, Chief, Bureau of Wildlife; and Mary Boyer, Executive Assistant.

A special meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission was held by telephone conference. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wheeler with Commissioners Power, McDermott, Wright and Budge participating. Commissioner Barowsky joined the call at 8:20 a.m. Commissioner Irby joined the call at 8:30 a.m.

Director Groen reported that the JFAC presentation on Monday went well. Commissioners Wheeler and Wright attended. JFAC members were concerned about the Department's funding situation.

LEGISLATION

Legislative Updates

Sharon Kiefer updated the Commission on pending legislation. Commissioners were sent via email legislation analysis sheets (Appendix 40, Exhibit 28) for the call.

SB 1086 had a print hearing in the Senate Resources and Environment Committee on Monday. An expected hearing is scheduled in the Senate Resource and Environment Committee on February 14th. Senator Schroeder has requested for Department staff and Commission to be present at the hearing.

Department –Sponsored Legislation

SB1011 (updating the disability criteria for the hunt from a motor vehicle) and SB 1010 (expanding the scope for the WMA pheasant permit) have both passed the Senate and have been passed on to the House.

SB 1027 the Department has testified with deleting any reference to terms for Fish and Game Commissioners.

SB 1022 testified hunting license for homicide.

Informational Bills with No Commission Action:

HB 58 wild game definition for organic food certification

HB 59 confidential lab tests

HB 62 misuse of public money
Failed on House floor prior to call.

HB 64 fraudulent use of financial transaction card

SB1041 Major Energy Facility Siting Act

07-38 Commissioner Barowsky moved and Commissioner Wright seconded a motion TO FOLLOW STAFF RECOMMENDATION ON SB 1041 TO DIRECT STAFF TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL TESTIMONY ABOUT EFFECTS TO FISH AND WILDLIFE. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

SB 1055 restitution for destruction of simulated wildlife.

07-39 Commissioner Power moved and Commissioner Budge seconded a motion TO SUPPORT SB1055. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

SB1072 Would require double fencing with certain specifications for domestic cervidae farms.

SB1073 amends Title 25 of Idaho Code to place a moratorium on the establishment of domestic cervidae farms, to prohibit the further importation of domestic cervidae, and to ban the shooting of domestic cervidae.

07-40 Commissioner Wright moved and Commissioner Irby seconded a motion THAT THE COMMISSION CONTINUE TO MONITOR SB 1072 AND SB1073. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

SB1074 Will provide a licensing procedure for domestic cervidae farms or ranches.

07-41 Commissioner Budge moved and Commissioner Wright seconded a motion TO MONITOR SB1074. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Chairman Wheeler stated that Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW) are asking for a letter of support for the South Central Idaho Isolated Wildlife Tract Cooperative Habitat Project application. This funding program could fund up to \$1 million to manage and enhance habitat for mule deer. Director Groen will review and discuss the proposal with staff to determine if it would be beneficial for the mule deer program. The Director will then send out a letter of support to SFW.

07-42 Commissioner Irby moved and Commissioner McDermott seconded a motion to allow the Chairman to sign a letter of support to SFW if the analysis of the

program is positive for the habitat of mule deer. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

LEGISLATION

Conference Call Date Change

Starting February 15th the Legislative Conference calls will be held on Thursdays until the end of the Legislative session.

MISCELLANEOUS

Adjournment

The Commission meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Cameron Wheeler
Chairman

Cal Groen
Secretary